



Rev. William Charles Bonnici

June 19, 1941 - July 13, 2012

Rev. William Charles Bonnici

Age 71, July 13, 2012

Born June 19, 1941 in Msida, Malta to the late Hector and Vincenza nee Pisani Bonnici.

Ordained a Catholic Priest March 11, 1967 in Malta

He left Malta in 1968 and traveled to Australia, then making his way to Canada. In January of 1973 he came to the United States, following many Maltese families to Michigan, where they worked for Ford Motor at the River Rouge Plant.

He was incardinated into the Archdiocese of Detroit on July 16, 1979

He served the Archdiocese of Detroit as an Associate Pastor and Pastor at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Detroit; St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Dearborn; St. Alfred Catholic Church, Taylor; St. Matthew and St. David Catholic Churches, Detroit; Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Auburn Hills; St. Thecla Catholic Church, Clinton Township; Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Roseville; and St. Matthias Catholic Church, Sterling Heights and Chaplin to Wm. Beaumont Hospital Troy, and Crittenton Hospital Rochester Hills.

Dear Brother of Mary Sultana, Freda Charlie Mifsud and Joseph Grace Bonnici.

Also survived by many Nieces and Nephews.

Visitation at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home 8459 Hall Rd. 3 Blks. East of Van Dyke Utica Tuesday 2-9pm with prayers 7pm

Instate Wednesday 10 am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church 3360 Adams Rd.

Auburn Hills until time of Mass 11am

Interment Roseland Park Cemetery Please share a memory at www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

Tribute Wall

CE

“*Father Bonnici gave me Carolyn Evans my instructions to turn Catholic, he married my husband and I in 1978, baptized my daughter with me, then my other two daughters when they were born, gave my first daughter her first communion, and he did the funeral mass for my sister-in-law. We have kept in contact every year at Christmas, spoke on the phone several times, and it wasn't until a few weeks ago that I found out about his going home to the Lord. We are deeply saddened by this loss and sorry we were not there for the funeral. Our deepest sympathy for a man who has given so much to others. He will be greatly missed! Mr and Mrs. Thomas Evans and Family originally from St. Alfred in Taylor, MI*

Carolyn and Thomas Evans - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AD

“*Father Bonnici served at our family church, St. David's many years ago. My mother always stayed in touch with him though they had not seen each other for years. When my father passed, my mother asked me to find him and ask if he would be our priest again for my father's funeral. After all those years, he welcomed our family to meet with him at Sacred Heart Church in Roseville and he helped us to prepare for our father's funeral mass. The mass was beautiful and a great comfort to all who were in attendance. It meant the world to our family and offered our mother such peace. We are so grateful to have had Fr. Bonnici in our lives. May he rest in God's loving arms. with deepest sympathy and love, Annette DePetris*

Annette DePetris - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ In December 1979, I was hospitalized for seven weeks because of complications with the birth of my first child. My husband, Rick, brought Father Bonnici to the hospital to bless me and my unborn child he said it was the first time he had blessed an unborn child. Wendy was born 5 weeks early weighing 3 lbs 2 ounces. Father Bonnici also did a home Baptism for us. I have photos of him with pool stick in hand at one of the many parties he attended at our home. He never forgot Rick's birthday on June 18 or my brother-in-law's birthday on June 20. Father's birthday was June 19! He came back to St. Alfred's for the Baptism of my other two daughters, Natalie and Tiffany, and many of my nieces and nephews. Today Wendy is a pathologist at Wm Beaumont Hospital, Natalie is a teacher and Tiffany is an actress. We will never forget Father Bonnici; he will always be in our hearts!

Lucy Wiesend - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Knowing Fr. Bill was an honor. He was a very kind and gentle person to all. He truly had a calling to the priesthood; he helped me grow in my faith. I knew him from St. David's Church in Detroit.

Rose Colombo - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ We're so glad we got to speak to Father several weeks ago when he called to say thank you for the birthday gift we sent him. We met Father at St. David's and have remained friends for many years. We will truly miss him. He epitomized what it means to be a priest. We know he's already in Heaven!

Pep & Judi Moroni - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ We miss you. Please pray for us so that one day we will join you in eternal life. Your brother Joe, Grace, Brenda & Lassi

Joe & Grace Bonnici - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Joe & Grace Bonnici - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ Dear Fr Bill, we will miss your kindness, your gentle ways & your sense of humor. We saw you valiantly try to tend to your flock, even as you grew weaker. You showed us what faith truly means. I will never forget our little jokes before Mass on Sunday; how we would try to outdo each other with "groaners". Lucky neither one of us had to tell jokes for a living! Rest in peace, dear friend. We will never forget you. Al & Donna Witkowski- St Josephs, Mayville

Allen Witkowski - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Fr. Bill was a wonderful priest and such a blessing to us at St. Frances Cabrini. In his humble gentle way he enriched all of our lives. What a sense of humor he had, even when he was so sick. Thank you to God for giving us the opportunity of knowing him.

Tony and Sue Bielski - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FE

“ *Fr Bill was a great priest and a wonderful friend. He was always very pleasant. He had that constant special smile, a smile that showed his love and kindness to all of us. We will never forget what he did for us during our son's illness in 1986, what dedication to Our Lord's work. We loved him very much and we will certainly miss him.*

Frank & Nina Elie - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Dear Father Bill, I know that you are at peace now in the loving arms of God. You are a very special person and helped our family thru some very trying times. I appreciated your friendship and will miss you terribly. May you rest in peace and watch over us from above.*

Denise Hagan - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *Blessings to you--for a hard fight to the Kingdom of God. You my Friend have filled our Father's arms with your good deeds here on this earth---we will miss you!!!! Love Claudia. I was on Staff at Sacred Heart Parish Roseville, Mi. with Father Bill.*

Claudia Miller - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *My dear precious friend, Fr. Bill. You will always be in my heart and my prayers. Remember you promised to always be my guardian angel. I will cherish our good fun times and don't worry, the ushers will keep on teasing me for you. I know that God and the angels welcomed you with open arms. I miss you!! Someday....again. Love you always-january*

January - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Father Bill, Your kind words and prayers ment alot to me when you were at St Matthias.I know you are happy in heaven.Please continue to pray for me from Heaven. You will be missed.God Bless you.Michelle Beeler*

michelle beeler - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *We are sorry we will not be able to attend the funeral service. Fr. Bill was a good, kind, decent, gentle man. Our faith lives have been forever enriched by his service to our Lord.*

Dennis & Mary Smith - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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Dennis & Mary Smith - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *Fr. Bill, as a returning Catholic, to St. Frances X. Cabrini, in Vassar, I am pleased to have met you, and taken your words from the homilies to heart. You helped me in ways only the Lord and I know. Rest is peace, you did your service here very well. Cheryl and Jimmy*

Cheryl Scott Manetta - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Fr. Bill, you were a blessing to our St. Frances Church in Vassar, thank you! What a joy and blessing for us to have met you, missing your smile, and words of wisdom, comfort, and those funny comments. Love, Mike and Kathie

Mike & Kathie Maurer - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

VG

“ Fr. Bill - We know that you are resting peacefully in a better place now, looking down and remembering all of your family and friends. We were very Blessed and Honored to have met you at St. Matthias and become friends with you. We will miss you dearly - however, we will never forget you. With Love, The Giganti's

Veronica & Tony Giganti - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Father, you were truly a Dear Friend in Christ. I know God is right now welcoming you home with a loving smile. It is comforting to know that you are at peace. Thankyou for the good times we shared together at St. Matthias. Remember us and pray for us from your Heavenly Home. The Sutton Family

Carolyn Sutton - March 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM